RTIP ID# (required) RIV000103

Project Description: The California Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration, in coordination with the City of Palm Springs and the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, propose to widen and improve Belardo Road from just west of South Palm Canyon Drive to a point just north of Sunny Dunes Road, including the construction of a two-lane bridge to carry Belardo Road over Tahquitz Creek and construction of new roadways to connect noncontiguous sections of Belardo Road, and to provide additional access to the Tribal Interpretive Center parking lot in the City of Palm Springs, Riverside County, California. In addition, the existing portions of Belardo Road from just west of South Palm Canyon Drive to just north of Sunny Dunes Road would be widened as necessary to create a uniform width roadway.

Type of Project (use Table 1 on instruction sheet)

The proposed project does not fit into any of the "Table 1" categories. The project would consist of 1) adding a new bridge structure, and 2) minor changes to an existing local street.

County Riverside

Narrative Location/Route & Postmiles: Project is located along Belardo Road, from just north of Sunny Dunes Road to just west of South Palm Canyon Drive, in the City of Palm Springs in eastern Riverside County. 08-RIV-0-PSP

Caltrans Projects – EA# PLHL 5282 (020)

Lead Agency: Caltrans, FHWA, and City of Palm Springs

Contact PersonPhone#Fax#EmailAlicia Colburn(909) 383-6909(909) 383-4129alicia colburn @dot.ca.gov

Hot Spot Pollutant of Concern (check one or both)

PM2.5

PM10 √

Federal Action for which Project-Level PM Conformity is Needed (check appropriate box)

| Categorical Exclusion (NEPA) | √ | EA or Draft EIS | FONSI or Final EIS | PS&E or Construction | Other |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------|
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------|

Scheduled Date of Federal Action:

Current Programming Dates as appropriate

| ourrone rrogram | PE/Environmental | ENG | ROW | CON |
|-----------------|------------------|------|------|------|
| Start | 2006 | 2007 | 2007 | 2007 |
| End | 2007 | 2007 | 2007 | 2008 |

Project Purpose and Need (Summary): (attach additional sheets as necessary)

See attached Purpose and Need statement.

Version 3.0 July 3, 2006

Surrounding Land Use/Traffic Generators (especially effect on diesel traffic): Land uses adjacent to the project alignment include: single family residences, vacant land, and a motel at the northern end of the project site near Sunny Dunes Road; Tahquitz Creek, a pedestrian/equestrian trail along Tahquitz Creek, and vacant land between Sunny Dunes Road and Mesquite Avenue; commercial, vacant land, mobile home parks between Mesquite Avenue and Morongo Road; and single family residences, hotel/motels, and vacant land between Morongo Road and South Palm Canyon Drive, near the southern end of Belardo Road.

Opening Year: Build and No Build LOS, AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT of proposed facility

| | LOS | AADT | Truck Only AADT | Truck Percentage |
|----------|-----|-------|-----------------|------------------|
| No Build | | | | |
| Build | В | 2,800 | 56 | 2% |

RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: Build and No Build LOS, AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT of proposed facility

| | LOS | AADT | Truck Only AADT | Truck Percentage |
|----------|-----|-------|-----------------|------------------|
| No Build | | | | |
| Build | В | 4,600 | 92 | 2% |

Opening Year: If facility is an interchange(s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT

N/A – Facility is not an interchange or intersection.

RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is an interchange (s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT

N/A - Facility is not an interchange or intersection.

Describe potential traffic redistribution effects of congestion relief (impact on other facilities)

The change in local circulation patterns that would be created by new access/egress opportunities and localized diversion would not be expected to degrade operations on area roadways. In addition, the traffic served by the bridge extension would be expected to be generally local in nature, but the project would still provide new and improved connectivity between downtown Palm Springs and the Tribal Interpretative Center, a specifically identified project purpose. The project will also provide more direct access to undeveloped areas in the project vicinity, improve local access and provide an alternative route for emergency vehicles to the South Palm Canyon Drive at the Tahquitz Channel.

Comments/Explanation/Details (attach additional sheets as necessary) None.

Version 3.0 July 3, 2006